

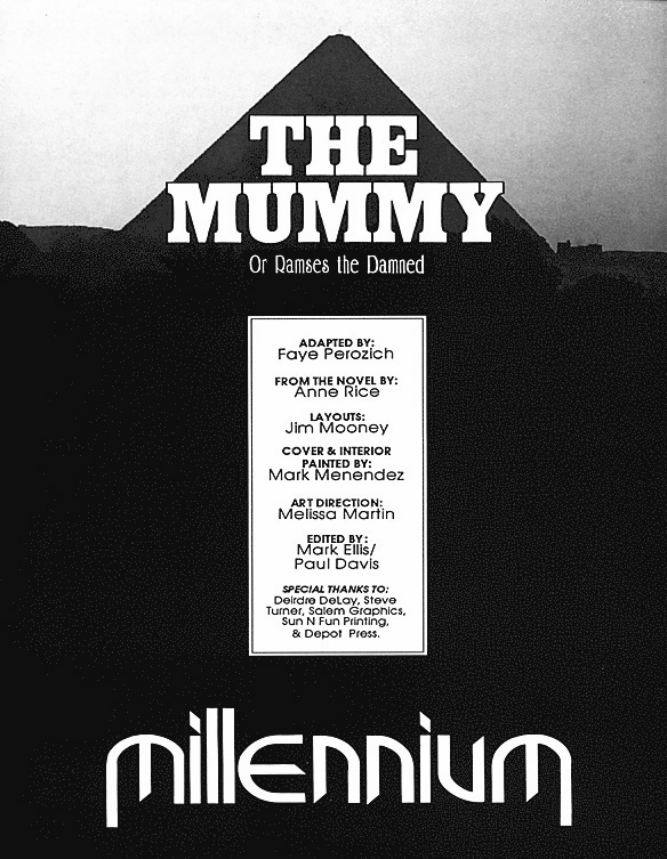
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ANNE RICE'S
THE MUMMY

or Ramses the Damned





THE MUMMY

Or Ramses the Damned

ADAPTED BY:
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Anne Rice

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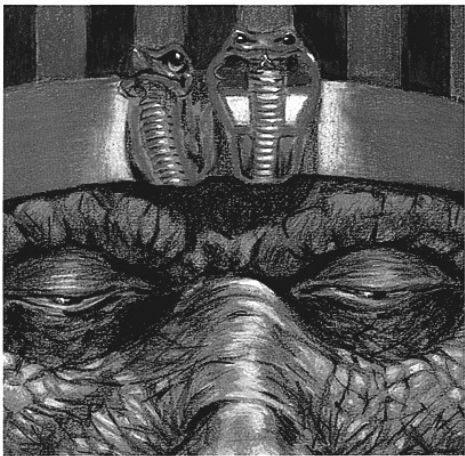
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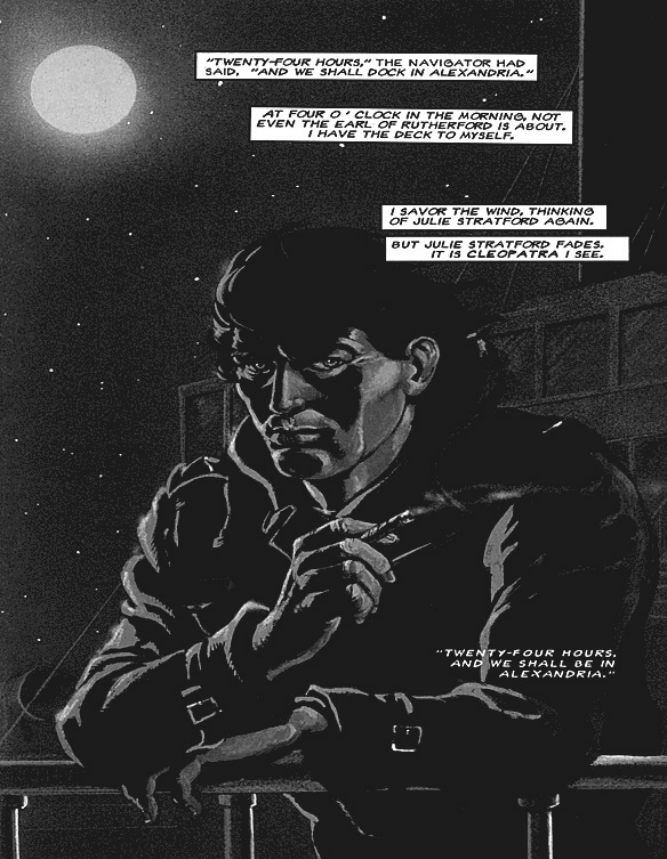
Anne Rice's "The Mummy or Ramses The Damned", Book Five. April 1991 Published monthly by Millennium Publications Inc. "The Mummy or Ramses The Damned" © 1989, Anne O'Brien Rice. Art © 1990 Millennium Publications.

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"TWENTY-FOUR HOURS," THE NAVIGATOR HAD SAID. "AND WE SHALL DOCK IN ALEXANDRIA."

AT FOUR O' CLOCK IN THE MORNING, NOT EVEN THE EARL OF RUTHERFORD IS ABOUT. I HAVE THE DECK TO MYSELF.

I SAVOR THE WIND, THINKING OF JULIE STRATFORD AGAIN.

BUT JULIE STRATFORD FADES. IT IS CLEOPATRA I SEE.

"TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.
AND WE SHALL BE IN
ALEXANDRIA."

IT IS THE YOUNG QUEEN I SEE --
AS YOUNG AS JULIE STRATFORD
IS NOW.



I WATCHED HER FROM AN
ANTECHAMBER AS SHE
CONVERSED WITH HER
ADVISORS.



NOW, WHAT ARE MY
LESSONS FOR THIS
AFTERNOON?



SIMPLE.
DISGUISE YOURSELF
AND COME WITH
ME.



WALK AMONG
YOUR PEOPLE
AND SEE WHAT
NO QUEEN CAN
EVER SEE.





THIS
IS WHAT
I WANT
OF YOU.



HERE.
DRINK.

IT TASTES
THE SAME.



YOU WANT MORE
THAN THAT.
YOU'RE PREPARING
ME FOR SOMETHING
MUCH MORE
IMPORTANT.



WHAT DO YOU
REALLY WANT
OF ME, RAMSES?

THAT YOU BE
A GOOD AND WISE
QUEEN OF EGYPT.



ALEXANDRIA.
WHAT WILL IT
BE TOMORROW?

Chapter Five





The Mummy's Hand

IF THE **GRAND COLONIAL HOTEL**
HAD EXISTED IN ANY OTHER PLACE,
I WOULD LOVE IT.

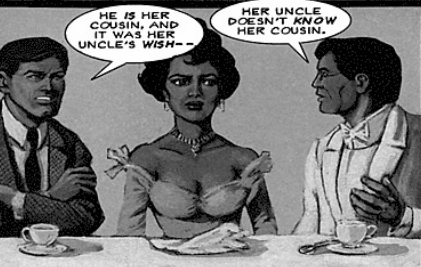
RAMSES...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

BUT HERE, IN
ALEXANDRIA,
IT IS A **PROFOUND**
SHOCK.



I CAN'T BELIEVE
HENRY WENT ON
TO CAIRO WITHOUT
US.

JULIE IS A BROWN
WOMAN. SHE DOESN'T
REQUIRE THE COMPANION-
SHIP OF A DRUNKEN,
DISSOLUTE BEING.



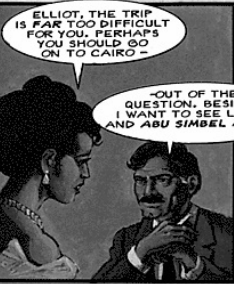
HE IS HER
COUSIN, AND
IT WAS HER
UNCLE'S WISH--

HER UNCLE
DOESN'T KNOW
HER COUSIN.



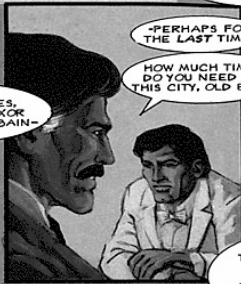
I'M GLAD
HENRY'S GONE.
WE'LL JOIN WITH
HIM SOON ENOUGH.

QUITE RIGHT.
I AM YOUR GUARDIAN NOW.
OFFICIALLY.



ELLIOT, THE TRIP
IS FAR TOO DIFFICULT
FOR YOU. PERHAPS
YOU SHOULD GO
ON TO CAIRO--

--OUT OF THE
QUESTION, BESIDES.
I WANT TO SEE LUXOR
AND ABU SIMBEL AGAIN--



--PERHAPS FOR
THE LAST TIME.

HOW MUCH TIME
DO YOU NEED IN
THIS CITY, OLD BOY?



NOT MUCH.
THERE'S VERY
LITTLE LEFT
OF THE OLD
ROMAN TIMES
I HOPED TO SEE...

AND THIS HOTEL STOOD ON THE
VERY SPOT WHERE HER PALACE
HAD BEEN --

ACADEMY OF THE
ANCIENT WORLD,
THIS CITY...AND
NOW IT'S A SEASIDE
RESORT.

-WHERE I HAD BEGGED
HER TO STOP HER
MAD PASSION FOR -

- MARC ANTONY
WILL FAIL!

IF CAESAR HAD
NOT BEEN STRUCK
DOWN, YOU WOULD
HAVE BEEN EMPRESS
OF ROME!

ANTONY WILL
NEVER GIVE
YOU THAT!
HE IS WEAK,
CORRUPT -!

WHAT DO YOU
CARE THAT I
BE EMPRESS?
THAT'S NOT
WHAT YOU
WANT OF ME!

YOU WANT THAT
I SHOULD DRINK
YOUR MAGIC
POTION - AND
TO HELL WITH
MY MORTAL LIFE!

YOU WOULD KILL
MY MORTAL LIFE
AND LOVE!
ADMIT IT!!

AH, STOP
THE VOICES
OF THE PAST.

BUT THEY ECHO EVERYWHERE...
EVEN IN THE CATACOMBS.

I WISH THAT WE WERE NOT HERE... THAT WE WERE BACK
IN ENGLAND AGAIN, OR FAR AWAY IN AMERICA.

YOU'VE BEEN
HERE BEFORE.
IT'S IMPORTANT
TO YOU.

YES.

LOOK -
THERE'S A WINDOW
CUT INTO THE ROCK.

AND THAT MUST
BE AN ALTAR!

NO...
A BED.

A BED WHERE I HAD LAIN
FOR THREE HUNDRED YEARS -
UNTIL THAT PORTAL HAD BEEN
OPENED.



RAMSES,
RISE!
A QUEEN
OF EGYPT
CALLS YOU!



RAMSES
THE GREAT.
A QUEEN OF
EGYPT NEEDS
YOUR COUNSEL.



RAMSES!



MY BEAUTIFUL JULIE.
YOU'VE BEEN SO
PATIENT. YOU DON'T
ASK ME TO EXPLAIN
ANYTHING.



YOU'LL
TELL ME
WHEN YOU
WANT TO
TELL ME.



IT'S ALL AS
YOU SAID. ALL
GONE WITHOUT
A TRACE.

WHY IS MY TEMPLE
STILL STANDING
AT LUXOR?



DO YOU
WANT TO
SEE IT?
ARE YOU
READY TO
LEAVE HERE?

IT IS
TIME
TO GO ON.
ISN'T IT?

ALEX, NOW THAT
HENRY'S GONE,
THERE'S SOMETHING
I HAVE TO DO...
IT CAN WAIT NO
LONGER.

YOU'RE A DARLING, AND
I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU.



BUT I DON'T WANT
TO MARRY YOU, EITHER.



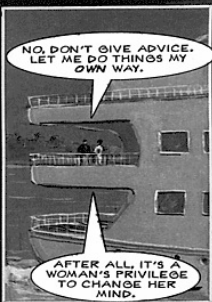
I KNOW.
I'VE KNOWN FOR
A LONG TIME.



BUT I'M GOING
TO CONTINUE TO
PRETEND IT ISN'T
SO.

ALEX -







THE PAIN'S LEAVING
YOU HERE IN LUXOR,
ISN'T IT?

WHEN I LOOK AT
YOU, I DON'T FEEL
IT AT ALL.

JULIE IS AS BEAUTIFUL
IN EGYPT AS SHE WAS
IN LONDON.



AAAAHH!!



MUMMY'S
HAND!



GET AWAY!
THESE NATIVE
FELLOWS ARE
INTOLERABLE!

MUMMY'S HAND!
VERY ANCIENT!







TELL ME...
WHERE DID
YOU GO WHEN
YOUR REIGN
ENDED?



ALL OVER
THE WORLD.



AS FAR
AS I DARED.



BUT INEVITABLY
THERE CAME...
CONFUSION.



HOW DO
YOU MEAN?



I WAS NO LONGER
A KING. I HAD NO
NATION.

I TOLD MYSELF
THAT THE WORLD
ITSELF WAS **EVERYTHING**.
BUT THAT WAS NOT TRUE.
I HAD TO COME BACK TO
EGYPT.



AND THAT WAS WHEN
YOU WANTED TO DIE.



WERE YOU CONSCIOUS
AT ALL AS YOU SLEPT?

I DREAMED.
OH, HOW I
DREAMED.

I DON'T THINK
THEY BELIEVED
IT ANYMORE.
UNTIL ...



I HAD BECOME **LEGEND** -
RAMSES THE **DAMNED**, WHO
SLEPT IN THE CAVE WAITING
FOR A KING OR QUEEN OF
EGYPT TO WAKE HIM.

SHE CAME.

SHE WAS THE LAST QUEEN
TO RULE EGYPT. AND THE
ONLY ONE TO WHOM I EVER
TOLD THE FULL TRUTH.

DID SHE
REALLY
REFUSE
THE ELIXIR?

SHE COULDN'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT IT WAS.

LATER, SHE **BEGGED** ME
TO GIVE IT TO MARC ANTONY.

I...SEE.
IT'S A WONDER
I DIDN'T GUESS IT.



MY ENGLISH
QUEEN...



I LOVE YOU,
JULIE
STRATFORD.



I AM YOURS,
RAMSES...



...FOREVER.



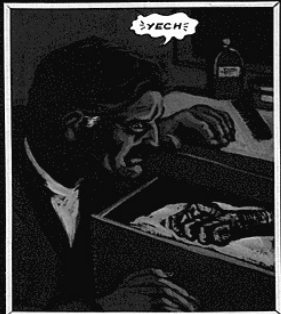
THIS THING HAS
MADE ME A
SNEAK AND A
THIEF...



NO SECRET
FORMULA IN
THIS CABIN.



BYE-BYE



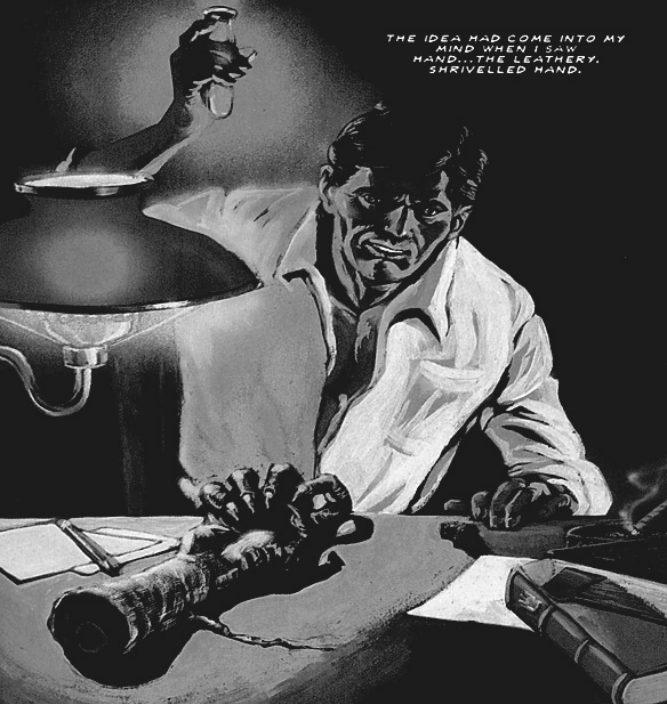
A SNEAK AND
A THIEF.



ANOTHER DAY HAD PASSED.

HAVE I DEVELOPED THE STOMACH
FOR WHAT I MEAN TO DO? HAVE
I NOT DONE ENOUGH OF THESE
GHASTLY EXPERIMENTS?

THE IDEA HAD COME INTO MY
MIND WHEN I SAW
HAND...THE LEATHERY,
SHRIVELLED HAND.



IT IS NO FAKE.
IT IS AS ANCIENT
AS I AM.

DO NOT
DO THIS!



AM I RELIEVED
OR DISAPPOINTED?



THANK THE GODS
IT CAN'T WORK ON
AN ANCIENT DEAD
THING.



THANK THE GODS
THE POTION HAS ITS --

-LIMITS.







"THIS CAVE HARBOURS
A HORRID SECRET..."

WHAT WAS IT
THE HITTITE
PRIESTESS
HAD
SAID..?



...THE SECRET OF THE END
OF THE WORLD ITSELF!!"



I KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE UP TO...
WHY YOU FOLLOWED
ME TO CAIRO.

YOU KNOW THAT
THING IS A MONSTER!!

HENRY, YOUR
STUPIDITY
IS BEYOND
BELIEF.

YOU'RE THE FOOL, ELLIOT!
YOU'RE CHASING AFTER THE
FILTHY THING! YOU BELIEVE IN
THIS MAD IDEA OF THE ELIXIR!

AND YOU
DON'T? HOW
DO YOU EXPLAIN
WHAT YOU SAW?

YOU SAW AN
IMMORTAL MAN
RISE FROM HIS
GRAVE.

WHY DO YOU
RUN FROM IT
WITH YOUR TAIL
BETWEEN YOUR
LEGS?

MAYBE I SHOULD TELL
COUSIN JULIE THAT YOU
WANT THE ELIXIR. MAYBE
I SHOULD TELL THAT THING!!

SHE KNOWS.
SO DOES HE.

GET OUT OF HERE,
HENRY! GO BACK TO
YOUR CARD GAMES AND
YOUR DANCING GIRL,
MALENKA!



BAH.



NICE ROOMS, MILORD?

THEY'LL DO, RITA.
WHERE IS MY SON?



DOWNSTAIRS, MILORD.
HE'S MET A PRETTY
AMERICAN GIRL, MISS
CHARLOTTE WHITNEY
BARRINGTON. FROM
NEW YORK.



HOW DO YOU
KNOW ALL THAT
ALREADY?



I SAW HIM NOT AN
HOUR AFTER WE CHECKED IN.



HE'S WITH MISS
BARRINGTON NOW.
I'M SURE HE'LL
INVITE HER ALONG
TO THE CAIRO
MUSEUM WITH THE
REST OF YOU.



WELL, WOULDN'T THAT BE
INTERESTING, RITA...IF OUR
DEAR ALEX MARRIED AN
AMERICAN HEIRESS!

ARE WE ALL SET?
OUR PRIVATE MUSEUM GUIDE
IS MEETING US IN FIFTEEN
MINUTES.

FALLEN IN
LOVE ALREADY?

PLEASE, DARLING, *DO*
GIVE YOUR OPINION OF
MISS BARRINGTON.

ALEX, SHE'S
PERFECTLY
LOVELY.

ELLIOT, YOU LOOK
TIRED. I'M SURPRISED
YOU DIDN'T STAY
BEHIND.

GOOD LORD,
DO YOU KNOW
WHAT THE
CAIRO MUSEUM
MEANS TO
PEOPLE?

AND IT'S THE
DIRTIEST,
DUSTIEST
PLACE I'VE-

ALEX, PLEASE,
WE'RE ABOUT TO
SEE THE GREATEST
COLLECTION OF
EGYPTIAN TREASURES
IN EXISTENCE.

THE LAST
ORDEAL.

-THE RAMSES THE DAMNED MUMMY IN ENGLAND IS A VERY CONTROVERSIAL DISCOVERY. THE TRUE RAMSES THE SECOND --

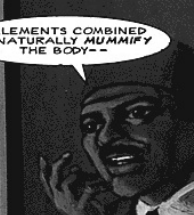
NO, SAMIR.
LET ME SEE IT
THROUGH TO
THE FINISH.

WHY NOT FORGO
THIS GRUESOME
PLEASURE, SIRE?



WE CANNOT
SMOKE, CAN WE?

-NOW THIS UNKNOWN
WOMAN IS A CURIOUS
EXAMPLE OF NATURAL
PRESERVATION...



...ELEMENTS COMBINED
TO NATURALLY MUMMIFY
THE BODY--



WE CAN SLIP AWAY,
SIRE, SURELY.



...THOUGH MOST OF THE
WRAPPINGS WERE LONG AGO
TORN AWAY, THE WOMAN'S
BODY WAS PERFECTLY
PRESERVED BY THE DELTA
MUD...

JULIE, I--



IT IS
SHE!!



...IT'S NOT **POSSIBLE**
THAT IT'S SHE-



NOT **POSSIBLE?!?**
YOU'VE DUG UP
THOUSANDS OF
THE EGYPTIAN
DEAD!



TOMBS AND
PYRAMIDS RAIDED!
WHAT IS **NOT**
POSSIBLE?!?



WE DON'T HAVE TO STAY
IN CAIRO ANY LONGER
IF YOU DON'T WANT--



NOT **NOW!!**



NO!!
WE CANNOT
LEAVE!





BUT THE COINS COULD'VE
BEEN STOLEN IN CAIRO,
BEFORE THE COLLECTION
WAS CATALOGED HERE
IN LONDON.

OF COURSE, INSPECTOR
TRENT.

WE SHOULD CHECK
EVERYTHING NOW,
WHILE WE HAVE THE
COURT ORDER.

OPEN THE MUMMY
CASE.



WH-?!!
WHAT THE
HELL IS GOING
ON HERE?!?

THIS ISN'T THE
SAME MUMMY,
YOU FOOL! IT'S
FROM A PEDDLER'S
SHOP IN LONDON!

I SAW IT
THERE
MYSELF!

DAMN THAT
STRATFORD
WOMAN! SHE'S
STOLEN THE
FIND OF THE
CENTURY!!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN,
MR. HANCOCK?

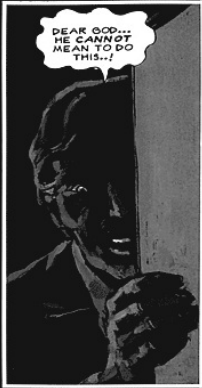
CAIRO SLEEPS...

...AND I AM MAD FOR
FOLLOWING HIM.

MADDER THAN **RAMSES**
THE DAMNED HAS EVER
BEEN.



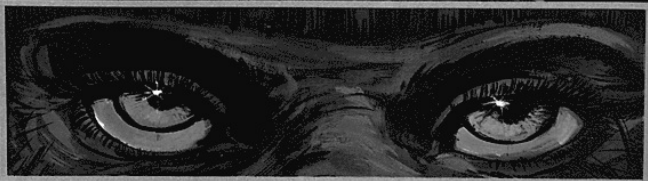
DEAR GOD...
HE CANNOT
MEAN TO DO
THIS...!





I-IT CANNOT
POSSIBLY WORK!

CLEOPATRA...





OHH...

DEAR GOD, MAN -
WHAT HAVE YOU
DONE? WHAT HAVE
YOU AWAKENED?!!



AAAAAAAAA...



IT'S NOT WHOLE...!
YOU'VE RAISED A
THING WHICH IS
NOT WHOLE!!